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State testing homes by old landfill

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Wednesday, May 11, 2011

(Updated 6:42 am)

By **AMANDA LEHMERT**
Staff Writer

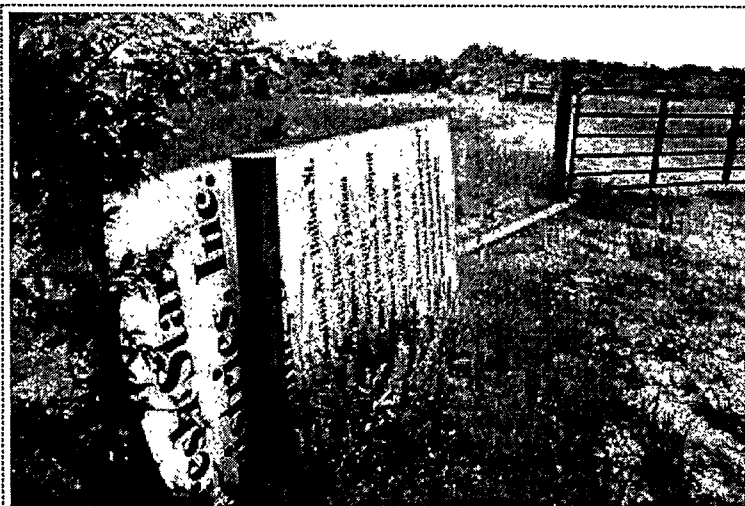
GREENSBORO — Pink plastic flags decorate the trees and bushes behind Michael and Michele Franklin's blue three-bedroom home.

They mark the border between the two-year-old house and the former E.H. Glass landfill property.

Today, the state will begin a second phase of environmental investigation into the dump. That work will include the Franklins' backyard, as researchers try to determine whether the dump extends to their property.

"I want to know what we're on," Michele Franklin said. "I have children."

All told, nine neighboring properties will be investigated, according to a N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources spokeswoman.



H. Scott Hoffmann (News & Record)

The E.H. Glass landfill operated as an unlined dump in the 1960s and '70s on Nealtown Road in Greensboro. Officials began testing the site, in part, because residents requested it.

[Additional Photos](#)

The first phase of soil, water and landfill gas testing at the dump found contaminated groundwater at the site, according to recently released results.

State officials will decide whether cleanup is necessary later this year.

The Glass landfill is an unlined dump that accepted waste during the 1960s and 1970s. It's west of the city's White Street Landfill.

Environmental officials started investigating the landfill in the last few years, in part because area residents wondered whether the dump made them sick.

Last fall, investigators gathered soil samples, tested for landfill gas and installed temporary wells at the Glass landfill.

The research uncovered metals and other contaminants in the groundwater. The contaminants are not believed to be a public health risk because no one is drinking the water.

Investigators also found trash in the soil samples taken at the border of the dump and neighboring properties,

Landfill

- [State testing homes by old landfill \(3:00 am\)](#)
- [Greensboro City Council refuses trash study \(May 9\)](#)
- [Greensboro council narrows list of trash disposal bidders \(May 4\)](#)
- [Matheny won't take landfill vote \(Apr. 28\)](#)
- [Reopening landfill more likely \(Apr. 27\)](#)

including the Franklins' yard.

The Franklins live in the last home at the end of the dead-end Tuskegee Street, surrounded by undeveloped lots. They worked with a developer, who designed and built the home for them in 2008.

They knew the White Street Landfill — a dump the City Council is expected to expand this year — was nearby. Now the state is exploring whether trash from the Glass landfill is under their property.

"We're trapped. We're right in the middle of the zone here," Michael Franklin said.

The state contacted the family and other area property owners in March, asking if they would allow investigators to access their property to do more research. Three agreed, according to the state.

In this second phase of investigation, environmental contractors will take more soil samples and continue to test for landfill gas, according to a state spokeswoman.

They also will test the surface water and sediment at two ponds and a creek at the landfill site. The research should be complete by July.

Contact Amanda Lehmert at 373-7075 or amanda.lehmert@news-record.com

Comments

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North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dexter R. Matthews, Director

Division of Waste Management

Michael F. Easley, Governor
William G. Ross Jr., Secretary

February 26, 2007

<SAL> <FIRST> <LAST>, County Manager
County of <MUNICIPALITY>
<ADDRESS>
<TOWN>, North Carolina <ZIP>

Subject: Assessment, Cleanup, and Redevelopment of Old Landfill Sites Within Your Jurisdiction

Dear <SAL> <LAST>:

Governor Easley released his proposed budget February 22, 2007. Included in the budget is a specific item I believe should be of interest to you from a fiscal, environmental and public health protection perspective.

There are approximately 700 old landfills statewide and <LANDFILL#> old landfills in your local area that closed before the State permitting system became effective. These landfills are listed on the Old Landfill Sites portion of the Inactive Hazardous Sites Inventory maintained by the Superfund Section, Division of Waste Management. Any person, including local governments, that arranged for disposal or disposed of waste in the landfills may be held liable for the cleanup of the site. I have attached a report that identifies the location of known old landfill sites in <COUNTY NAME> County that may have closed prior to 1983 and thus qualify for the program described in this letter.

The Division has surveyed old landfills in 47 counties. The results of the survey indicate reason for concern about potential public health and safety impacts of these sites if they are not addressed. Seventy percent of the sites surveyed had a school, church, residence, day care or drinking water source within 1000 feet. The Division has found 102 old landfills that have a drinking water well within 500 feet. Thirteen of the landfills surveyed have residences built over the old landfill. The cost of assessment and cleanup of these old landfill sites can be as high as several million dollars.

Governor Easley's budget establishes a partnership between the State and local governments to both clean up the old landfill sites and provide funding for redevelopment of the sites. Many are in prime locations for redevelopment opportunities. The Governor's budget proposes to pay for cleanup and redevelopment of these sites through a surcharge on disposal of solid waste. The funding mechanism is a fair one. It is based on the idea that those who use solid waste disposal facilities should share responsibility for cleanup of sites used for solid waste disposal in the past that may have been lawful at the time, but did not meet standards that we now know are necessary to protect public health and safety.

The proposed \$2.00 per ton disposal surcharge would apply to residential, commercial, industrial, and construction and demolition debris type waste that is either disposed at a landfill or passes through a transfer station for disposal out-of-state. The State would use revenue from the surcharge to contract for cleanup of the old landfill sites and to provide grants to local government for redevelopment. The funds could also be used across the state to clean up other hazardous substance disposal sites that have no viable responsible party.

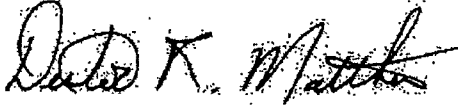
The only tool currently available to the State to ensure cleanup when it is needed is an enforcement action against those who owned, operated, or contributed to old landfills. The Governor's proposal would avoid placing an unreasonable

burden on any one local government and allow us to use our resources for actual cleanup rather than legal action. When old landfill sites were in use, North Carolina citizens, businesses, and industries benefited from their existence as a place to dispose of waste. The surcharge on waste disposal is a way for citizens, businesses, and industries to form a partnership for cleanup and redevelopment of these old landfill sites.

There is great interest this session of the General Assembly in strengthening requirements for landfills permitted in North Carolina. I encourage you to take a close look at legislation that will be introduced, specifically this initiative and what it can bring to your jurisdiction.

If you have questions regarding the program for clean-up of old landfills, please contact Jack Butler, Chief of the Superfund Section, at jack.butler@ncmail.net or call (919)508-8450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dexter R. Matthews". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dexter" being more prominent.

Dexter R. Matthews, Director

cc: David Thompson, NCACC
Jack Butler, Chief – Superfund Section



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dexter R. Matthews, Director

Division of Waste Management

Michael F. Easley, Governor
William G. Ross Jr., Secretary

February 27, 2007

<SAL> <FIRST> <LAST>
<TITLE>, <MUNICIPALITY>
<ADDRESS>
<TOWN>, North Carolina <ZIP>

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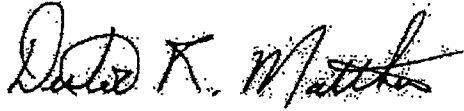
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Dexter R. Matthews, Director

cc: Ellis Hankins, NCLM
Jack Butler, Chief – Superfund Section

The mailing list for these letters is filed in a folder in the first file cabinet drawer for the old landfill sites.

A statewide Old Landfill Inventory report is filed in a folder in the first file cabinet drawer for the old landfill sites.



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dexter R. Matthews, Director

Division of Waste Management

Michael F. Easley, Governor
William G. Ross Jr., Secretary

January 31, 2005

Mr. Roger C. Cotten
County Manager
PO Box 3427
Greensboro, North Carolina 27402

Re: Request for Information on old unlined landfills, Guilford County.

Dear Mr. Cotten,

The Division of Waste Management, Superfund Section, Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch (Branch) is in the process of cataloging old landfills in the state. This letter is being sent to you to solicit your cooperation in providing information on old unlined landfills that are not subject to Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section post-closure regulations in your county. This process is a part of a statewide effort to accurately inventory old dumpsites to aid in safe reuse and to protect public health and the environment.

Once an old landfill site has been identified, the site location, site usage, and vicinity usage is researched. Potential hazards to the public and the environment are then evaluated by risk assessment. Sites then are reviewed based on risk and/or by safe redevelopment requests.

The Branch then works with owners and responsible parties on final solutions for containment of the waste and to ensure safe reuse of the old landfill sites. Safe reuse might involve engineering controls to prevent exposure to wastes, if necessary, and restrictive covenants limiting the property to certain uses and setting conditions for construction or other soil disturbing activities. Annual reporting that restrictive covenants remain in place will be a duty of the current owner.

Known old landfills/dump sites are maintained in a database. Attached is a listing of known sites located in your county. Available information that may include location and years of operation information for each site is also listed. Please review the list and verify or provide information that will more accurately characterize the site(s). If you have knowledge of sites not included on the list, please add the additional sites along with location information, directions, years of operation, and any additional notable information.

Please return the list and any additional information within 90 days to:

Cheryl Marks
Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch
Superfund Section
NC Division of Waste Management
401 Oberlin Road - Suite 150
Raleigh, NC 27605-1350

Or you may email me with your response at Cheryl.Marks@ncmail.net or call with any questions concerning this request at (919) 733-2801, extension 283. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Marks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cheryl Marks, Hydrogeologist
Inactive Hazardous Site Branch
NC Superfund Section

Old Landfill Inventory - Location Information

Latitude/Longitude and other data in this report is highly subject to inaccuracies. State Plane coordinates replace latitude/longitude entries as data is collected. These coordinates may also be subject to error.

COUNTY: GUILFORD

Site Name: BUD HOLDING COMPANY

In IHS Inventory? No

ID Number: NONCD0000673

Other Agency Lead

Site Address: REGIONAL ROAD

NFA or NFA-Restricted Use? No

City: GREENSBORO

Unable to Locate ☐

State Plane X:

Latitude:

State Plane Y:

Longitude:

Directions: REGIONAL ROAD

LDFL Size (Acres):	Present Within 1000 ft of Ldfl			
	Property Size (Acres):	18		
Date Open:	Church	No	Residence On Ldfl?	No
Date Closed:	School	No	Potable Well Within 500 ft?	No
	Day Care	No	Adjoins Perennial SW?	No
	Residential	No		

Notes:

(End Site Record)

Site Name:	GIBSONVILLE TOWN LF	In IHS Inventory?	No
ID Number:	NONCD0000338	Other Agency Lead	
Site Address:	SR 2748	NFA or NFA-Restricted Use?	No
City:	GIBSONVILLE	Unable to Locate	<input type="radio"/>

State Plane X:	Latitude:	36.0538
State Plane Y:	Longitude:	-79.5455

Directions: SR 2748 OFF US 70. ALSO DESCRIBED AS SR 3068, S OF TOWN (2 DIFFERENT SITES?)

LDFL Size (Acres): 45 Property Size (Acres): 45 Date Open: 1966 Date Closed: 1989	Present Within 1000 ft of Ldfl			
	Church	No	Residence On Ldfl?	No
	School	No	Potable Well Within 500 ft?	No
	Day Care	No	Adjoins Perennial SW?	No
	Residential	No		

Notes: PERMIT # 41-02

(End Site Record)

Site Name:	GLASS EH COUNTY LF	In IHS Inventory?	Yes
ID Number:	NCD980557607	Other Agency Lead	
Site Address:	1103 NEALTOWN	NFA or NFA-Restricted Use?	No
City:	GREENSBORO	Unable to Locate	<input type="radio"/>
State Plane X:		Latitude:	36.1093
State Plane Y:		Longitude:	-79.7392
Directions:	1103 NEALTOWN RD. SR 2847, W OF TOWN		

LDFL Size (Acres):	6	Present Within 1000 ft of Ldfl		
Property Size (Acres):	6	Church	No	Residence On Ldfl? No
Date Open:	1950	School	No	Potable Well Within 500 ft? No
Date Closed:	1975	Day Care	No	Adjoins Perennial SW? No
		Residential	No	

Notes: E.H. GLASS OPERATED. ALTHEA S TRUESDALE OWNER AS OF 3/2000

(End Site Record)

Site Name:	GREENSBORO CITY LF	In IHS Inventory?	Yes
ID Number:	NCD991279027	Other Agency Lead	SWS
Site Address:	WHITE ST EXT	NFA or NFA-Restricted Use?	No
City:	GREENSBORO	Unable to Locate	<input type="radio"/>

State Plane X:	Latitude:	36.1769
State Plane Y:	Longitude:	-79.7168

Directions: WHITE ST EXT. OFF HWY 29A, N OF TOWN

LDFL Size (Acres): 150 Property Size (Acres): 150 Date Open: 1948 Date Closed: 1978	Present Within 1000 ft of Ldfl			
	Church	No	Residence On Ldfl?	No
	School	No	Potable Well Within 500 ft?	No
	Day Care	No	Adjoins Perennial SW?	No
	Residential	No		

Notes: PERMIT # 41-03

(End Site Record)

Site Name:	HIGH POINT DUMP	In IHS Inventory?	Yes
ID Number:	NCD980557565	Other Agency Lead	SWS
Site Address:	SR 1158	NFA or NFA-Restricted Use?	No
City:	HIGH POINT	Unable to Locate	<input type="radio"/>

State Plane X:	Latitude:	35.9632
State Plane Y:	Longitude:	-79.9052

Directions: GO 1 MILE OF I-85 ON SR 1113. LEAVE SR 1158.

LDFL Size (Acres):	8	Present Within 1000 ft of Ldfl		
Property Size (Acres):	25	Church	No	Residence On Ldfl? No
Date Open:	1959	School	No	Potable Well Within 500 ft? No
Date Closed:	1974	Day Care	No	Adjoins Perennial SW? No
		Residential	No	

Notes: THIS SITE AND THE HIGH POINT TRASH DUMP ARE APPROX 1 MI APART & ARE BOTH PART OF THE HIGH POINT CITY LDFL IN THE IHS INV. THIS SITE ALSO KNOWN AS THE JACKSON LAKE LF.

(End Site Record)

Site Name:	HIGH POINT TRASH DUMP	In IHS Inventory?	No
ID Number:	NONCD0000707	Other Agency Lead	SWS
Site Address:	SR 1145	NFA or NFA-Restricted Use?	No
City:	HIGH POINT	Unable to Locate	<input type="radio"/>

State Plane X:	Latitude:	35.9275
State Plane Y:	Longitude:	-79.9016

Directions: SR 1145. RIVERDALE RD. 3 MI S OF I-85

LDFL Size (Acres):	7	Present Within 1000 ft of Ldfl			
Property Size (Acres):	20	Church	No	Residence On Ldfl?	No
Date Open:	1959	School	No	Potable Well Within 500 ft?	No
Date Closed:		Day Care	No	Adjoins Perennial SW?	No
		Residential	No		

Notes: THIS SITE AND THE HIGH POINT DUMP ARE APPROX 1 MI APART & ARE BOTH PART OF THE HIGH POINT CITY LDFL IN THE IHS INV. PERMIT # 41-01

(End Site Record)

Number of Sites: 6 (End County Record)

Alamance
LKH

November 24, 1971

Dr. K. L. Ketchum
503 West Davis Street
Burlington, North Carolina 27215

Dear Dr. Ketchum:

Your telephone complaint to the Office of Water and Air Resources has been referred to this office since this agency is responsible for solid waste disposal.

I am asking that Mr. O. W. Strickland, Supervisor, Solid Waste Management, investigate the conditions described at the Wheely Bridge Road in Guilford County on Alamance Creek and make recommendations for the alleviation of the problem.

If I can provide you additional assistance or information, I shall appreciate hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

Sidney E. Uary, Chief
Solid Waste & Vector Control Section
Sanitary Engineering Division

SHU:bm
cc: Jackie Hall
O. W. Strickland

Pollution Monitor ~~DAILY~~ REPORT OF ~~ACTIVITIES~~

~~Water Quality Division~~

Date 11-18-1971

Name of Caller: Mr. K. L. Ketchum

PLACES VISITED:

Address: 503 N. Davis St., Burlington, N.C. 27215

Telephone: 228-6898

Nature of Call:

~~NARRATIVE:~~

Complained of garbage being dumped at Weely Bridge Road in Guilford County on Alamance Creek. The refuse flows into the Creek when it rains.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

By: Sanitary Engineering Div., State Board of Health.

Action Taken:

~~TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS:~~

~~Hours on duty:~~

~~SIGNED:~~

Jessie Hall